

## **“Dreams” by Maksim, Age 12**

It was October 22, 2011. Jax had moved into his new house in California two months ago. He left his hometown in Iowa, meaning he also left all his friends, but it wasn't hard for him to find new friends. However, he had been suspicious of the house ever since he moved in. He heard weird noises coming from the basement every day, whether it was loud bangs or creepy whispers. He asked his mom if she heard anything. She always said no and that he was just hearing things. That had freaked Jax out.

“Jax, can you grab my laundry from the basement?” his mom said.

“Sure,” Jax responded. He went to the basement to grab the laundry out of the dryer.

“JAX!” He heard a voice call his name.

“Who's there?” Jax said, frightened.

“I'M COMING FOR YOU!” the creature's voice said before making a loud bang.

Nine days went by and Jax heard nothing. In fact, he had pretty much forgotten about the creature. Jax invited his new friends for a sleepover on Halloween night. They slept in the basement because there was a TV down there. They watched scary movies, played games and ate candy.

One by one, his friends fell asleep until Jax was the last one awake. Jax decided to watch some more TV and then go to bed. Ten minutes had gone by. “JAX,” said a voice from behind him. It was back!

“What do you want?” Jax said, trying to sound like he wasn't scared.

“DON'T PRETEND JAX; I KNOW YOU'RE SCARED!” Jax eyes widened. “COME WITH

ME!” the creature said.

The next thing Jax knew was he was in a maze-like room. The walls, floors and ceiling were all white with a shade of red being projected on them by the lights on the above. It seemed like a scene from a horror movie.

“Where am I? Mom!” Jax shouted. No one responded. Was he in a dream? Had he fallen asleep and not noticed? The room grew colder and colder and colder to the point where Jax felt like his blood was going to freeze. Then he started to hear unidentified noises. The noises grew louder and louder and louder.

Jax wasn't going to wait and see what was making the noises, so he started running as fast as he could. Running left and right wasn't working because the maze-like room never seemed to end. He went on and on and on, struggling to find an exit. Jax could barely breathe because he was so exhausted, but he knew if he stopped running whatever creature was behind him would catch him.

The noises grew louder and louder until he was able to make out some words. “JAX,” it said, “COME HERE!”

Jax couldn't help but look behind him. He turned his head all the way around while failing to stand straight as he tripped over his own legs.

Jax was never seen again after that night. The only thing found was writing in blood on the wall that said, “I KILLED HIM!” Later on, his mom heard the voice of the creature. “I'M COMING FOR YOU NEXT,” it said.

Jax never woke up from his dream. That is, if he really was dreaming.